

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action identified above, and is further responsive in any other manner indicated below.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS OBSOLETE VIA CLAIM CANCELLATION

Claim 5 was objected to because of the Office Action concerns listed at Item 1 on page 2 of the Office Action. As such objection has been rendered obsolete by the present cancellation of claims, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER §112, 2ND PARA. OBSOLETE VIA CLAIM CANCELLATION

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the concerns listed at Item 3 on page 2 of the Office Action. Unrelated to any prior art rejection, Claim 12 has now been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus rendering the rejection thereof obsolete at this time. Based upon the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §112 second paragraph rejection are respectfully requested.

PENDING CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 were pending, under consideration and subject to examination in the Office Action. Appropriate claims have been canceled (without prejudice or disclaimer) or amended in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. That is, such changes are unrelated to any prior art, scope

adjustment or rejection, and are merely claims in which the Applicant is presently interested. At entry of this paper, Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-11 and 13-15 are pending for further consideration and examination in the application.

Applicant respectfully retains all rights to all limitations/features of all claims canceled from the present application and all rights to pursue all limitations/features of all canceled claims in any subsequent continuing applications, as indicated below.

ALLOWED CLAIMS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-11 and 13-15 are allowed in the application, as indicated at Item 8 on page 6 of the Office Action. Renewal of the allowance is respectfully requested. Applicant and the undersigned respectfully thank the Examiner for such indication of allowable subject matter.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §§102 AND 103 (CLAIMS CANCELED)

All prior art rejections (*i.e.*, the 35 USC §102 rejection of Claims 3 and 12 as being anticipated by Kori *et al.* (US 6,480,607 B1); and the 35 USC §103 rejection of Claim 5 as being unpatentable over Kori *et al.* in view of Traw *et al.* (US 5,949,877 A)) are respectfully traversed.

Despite the above strong traversal, the present cancellation of the rejected claims (without prejudice or disclaimer) to move Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-11 and 13-15 to immediate allowance has rendered such rejections and traversal arguments obsolete at this time. Accordingly, further discussions/arguments may best be left for any future applications and/or litigation. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of

such §§102 and 103 rejections, and express written allowance of all of the presently pending claims, are respectfully requested.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer. Further, Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, *i.e.*, Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

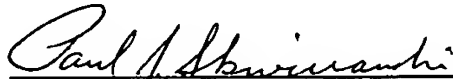
The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the local D.C. area number of 703-312-6600, to discuss an Examiner's Amendment or other suggested action for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are now in condition for allowance.

This Amendment is being filed within the shortened statutory period for response set by the Office Action mailed 2 July 2004 in the above-identified application (2 October being a Saturday), and therefore, no Petition is required for entry of this paper. To whatever other extent is actually appropriate and necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. No fees are required for entry of this paper. Please charge any actual deficiencies to ATSK Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (as Case No. 520.37550X00).

Respectfully submitted,



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